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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/523,985

07/26/2005

Tetsuji Zama

3103-110

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07/08/2010

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EXAMINER

THOMAS, JAISON P

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1796

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

07/08/2010

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/523,985

Applicant(s)

ZAMA ET AL.

Examiner

Jaision P. Thomas

Art Unit

1796

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 April 2010.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 42-48 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 42-48 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/CD)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/09/11/10
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to amendments filed on 4/9/2010.
2. Claims 1-41 are cancelled. Claims 42-48 are new.
3. The rejections of Claims 4,5,11,12,19,29,30 and 32-34 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph are mooted in view of Applicant's cancellation of the claims.
4. The rejections of Claims 4,5,11,12,19,32-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph are mooted in view of Applicant's cancellation of the claims.
5. The rejections of Claims 4,5,11,12,19-24,29,30 and 32-38,40 and 41 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over Madden et al. (US Patent 6249076) are mooted in view of Applicant's cancellation of the claims.
6. The rejection of Claim 39 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Madden et al. (US Patent 62490760) is mooted in view of Applicant's cancellation of the claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 42-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Madden et al. (US Patent 6249076).

The teachings of Madden are summarized in the Non-Final Rejection dated 9/18/2008, pg. 4 and the Non-Final Rejection dated 12/9/2009 on pgs.6-7.

Response to Arguments

10. Applicant's arguments filed 4/9/2010 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants contend that the Madden reference does not teach the specific structure of the actuator as claimed i.e. containing an operational electrolyte wherein the electrolyte

contains anions described and additionally a polymer doped with anions of the operational electrolyte.

The Examiner respectfully disagrees and notes the broad definition of operational electrolytes as a "plural of fluorine atoms which bond to a central atom." The Examiner notes that the Madden reference incorporates by reference an article to Yamaura et al. which describes the formation of polypyrroles doped with various anions including fluorinated anions. Additionally, Madden et al. teaches that the conductive polymer can be enclosed in an electrolyte which includes an electrolyte "an agar ... gel containing a salt dopant ..." wherein the salt dopant is described as tetraethyl ammonium hexafluorophosphate (Col. 4, lines 15-24). Thus, the Madden reference teaches both a conductive polymer doped with fluorinated anion as well using a electrolyte that contains fluorinated anion as well.

Alternatively, any minor modification of the prior art reference, such as the selection of the dopant anions or electrolytes as defined in the Madden et al. reference to meet the instantly claimed limitations requiring fluorinated species would be within the purview of the ordinarily skilled artisan and would not patentably distinguish the claims over the prior art.

Applicant is invited to contact the undersigned examiner in order to discuss possible ways of overcoming the above rejection. To contact the undersigned examiner in order to discuss possible ways of overcoming the above prior art rejection.

Conclusion

11. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jaison P.

Thomas whose telephone number is (571) 272-8917. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 9:30 am to 6:00 pm.

13. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Randy P. Gulakowski can be reached on (571) 272-1302. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/J. P. T./
Examiner, Art Unit 1796

/Mark Kopec/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit
1796